

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus, comprising:  
a receiver for receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;  
a transforming portion for transforming said received image into a  
color signal represented in a uniform color space;  
5 a determining portion for determining scene information indicating a  
character of said received image;  
a deciding portion for deciding a correction level for correcting said  
image in accordance with said determined scene information; and  
a correcting portion for correcting said image in said uniform color  
10 space in accordance with said decided correction level.

2. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said uniform color space has components of lightness, hue and  
chroma, and  
said deciding portion decides said correction level for each of the  
5 lightness, hue and chroma of said transformed image.

3. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said correction level decided by said deciding portion includes a level at  
which no correction is made.

4. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said uniform color space has components of lightness, chroma and  
hue, and  
said determining portion determines scene information based on a  
5 color signal having at least one of the lightness, chroma and hue of said  
transformed image.

5. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said determining portion includes an accepting portion for accepting an  
input of scene information.

6. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said uniform color space has at least a hue as a component, and said correcting portion corrects a color signal of a hue using one of a median filter and a mode filter.

7. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a dividing portion for dividing said received image into a plurality of rectangular regions; and
- a detecting portion for detecting a specified rectangular region including a specific hue from said plurality of rectangular regions, based on said transformed color signal;
- said deciding portion for deciding a specific correction level for said detected specified rectangular region.

8. An image processing apparatus, comprising:

- a receiver for receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;
- a dividing portion for dividing said received image into a plurality of rectangular regions;
- a transforming portion for transforming said received image into a color signal represented in a uniform color space;
- a detecting portion for detecting an attribute of each of said plurality of rectangular regions based on said transformed color signals;
- a deciding portion for deciding a correction level for each of said rectangular regions in accordance with said detected attribute; and
- a correcting portion for correcting said received image for each of said rectangular regions in said uniform color space, in accordance with said decided correction level.

9. The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said uniform color space has components of lightness, hue and chroma, and

said deciding portion decides said correction level for each of the

5 lightness, hue and chroma of said transformed image.

10. An image processing method, comprising the steps of:  
receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;  
transforming said received image into a color signal represented in a  
uniform color space;

5 determining scene information indicating a character of said received  
image;

deciding a correction level for correcting said image in accordance  
with said determined scene information; and

10 correcting said image in said uniform color space in accordance with  
said decided correction level.

11. A computer program product making a computer execute the  
steps of:

receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;

5 transforming said received image into a color signal represented in a  
uniform color space;

determining scene information indicating a character of said received  
image;

deciding a correction level for correcting said image in accordance  
with said determined scene information; and

10 correcting said image in said uniform color space in accordance with  
said decided correction level.

12. A computer program product making a computer execute the  
steps of:

receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;

dividing said received image into a plurality of rectangular regions;

5 transforming said received image into a color signal represented in a  
uniform color space;

detecting an attribute of each of said plurality of rectangular regions  
based on said transformed color signal;

10 deciding a correction level for each of said rectangular regions in  
accordance with said detected attribute; and  
correcting said received image for each of said rectangular regions in  
said uniform color space in accordance with said decided correction level.

13. A computer program product making a computer execute the  
steps of:

5 receiving an image obtained by shooting a subject;  
transforming said received image into a color signal represented in a  
uniform color space;  
determining scene information indicating a character of said received  
image;  
10 deciding process details for correcting said image in accordance with  
said determined scene information; and  
correcting said image in said uniform color space in accordance with  
said decided process details.